

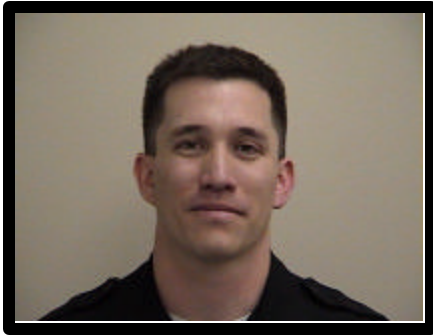


CSFD *Fire Log*

City of College Station Fire Department Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 1

January 2004



CITY OF COLLEGE STATION

FIRE DEPARTMENT

EMPLOYEE OF THE YEARS 2003

Firefighter/Paramedic Canaan Blake shows his dedication to the citizens of College Station and this department. The constant need of supplies for each station is a paramount obligation with which he has met head on and takes with a sense of pride. During fire fighting operations he maintains a cool demeanor and makes the scene easier to manage for all involved. He has grown with tremendous bounds in his medical skills and shows a great deal of compassion for his patients. His attitude and performance both in and out of the station is quite an asset to the department. Again, congratulations Canaan Blake for a job well done!

FIRE STATION NUMBER FIVE

The construction contract for fire station five was approved by city council on March 25, 2004. Stephens Construction Services of Houston was the low bidder with a bid of \$1,284,000.00. A Notice to Proceed will be issued in the next couple of weeks. The time line for construction is 365 days and the project should be complete in early May of 2005. A ground breaking will be scheduled in the near future. The exact time and date will be sent to all employees when it is determined. I want to thank everyone on shift for their assistance and input with the design phase of the project. Your comments were very helpful. - Jon Mies, Assistant Chief



The Mission of the College Station Fire Department is to provide cost efficient, high-quality fire suppression and emergency medical services while providing non-emergency services, such as fire prevention, public education, and code enforcement activities.

CALENDAR ITEMS

APRIL				1	2	3
4	5 6:30pm CFA	6 7AM-NOON Fit-Life Test	7 8am-5pm MCTO-P at ESTI 6:30 pm CSFD Aug.	8 8am-5pm MCTO-P at ESTI	9 CITY HOLIDAY	10
11	12 6:30pm CFA	13 7AM-NOON Fit-Life Test	14 5PM Deadline to register for Lt. Written Exam	15 8am-5pm MCTO-D at ESTI	16 8am-5pm MCTO-D at ESTI	17
18	19 5:30 CFS Alumni/ Cart Mtg 6:30pm CFA	20	21	22	23	24
8 am – 5 pm – DEM Confined Space Rescue						
25	26 8am – 5pm MCTO-T at ESTI 6:30pm CFA	27 8am – 5pm MCTO-T at ESTI	28	29	30 8am Lt. Exam CS Conf Ctr Rm 103	
MAY						1
2	3 6:30pm CFA	4	5	6	7	8 7am CFA Live Burn Brayton
9	10 6:30pm CFA	11	12	13	14	15
8am – 5pm – EVOC – Riverside Campus						
16	17 6:30pm CFA	18	19 8am begin Lt. Assessment CS Conf Ctr	20	21	22
23	24 6:30pm CFA	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 CITY HOLIDAY					

JUNE Career Connections for Jr & High School Students Risk Watch Injury Prevention Camp Shows		1	2	3	4 5:30 – 11pm CSFD Picnic Adamson Lagoon	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 CS Employee Picnic Adamson Lagoon	12
13	14 6:00pm CFA Graduation	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

2004 CSFD Country Fare Employee Picnic

When: June 4

Time: 5:30 – 11:00 pm

Where: Adamson Lagoon

Find that swimming gear, and bring the family out to Adamson Lagoon for an evening of fun. There will be award winning barbecue and all the usual country fare. Games for the children and adults will be hosted by the CSFD Auxiliary so come out and challenge your fellow employees in sack races, horseshoes, limbo, fishing, lilly pad games, and “wheel-barrow” races. There will also be face painting and a piñata, surprise bags for the children, and prizes to the winners of the games. Guys you sure will not want to miss the ladies “pumper races”. And of course the traditional event t-shirt. Watch for your invitation in the mail. See you all at the Lagoon!

Code Enforcement’s “Outstanding Properties” Program

The College Station Fire Department's Code Enforcement Division recently took a look at the way we conduct business. What we found, as you can imagine, is the vast majority of the public contacts involved some sort of enforcement. Staff decided, we should do something to recognize those members of the community that are doing their part to keep College Station looking great. In an effort to develop more positive contacts between Code Enforcement and members of the community, we added the concept of catching someone doing something right. As Code Enforcement officers notice properties either commercial or residential that exemplify compliance with city codes or have recently brought their property into compliance we take notice. A Code Enforcement officer will knock on the person’s door and tell them thanks for keeping College Station looking great. A letter is also sent to the property owner acknowledging their contribution to the community. This program has been very well received by the community and the code enforcement officers really enjoy being able to say thanks for your help. This program was started with the thought in mind that we should make contacts with the community on both sides of the issues. If you’re doing good, a pat on the back is always a good thing. If your property needs some help to meet codes we diligently work towards voluntary compliance.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

We are continually reminded that College Station is prone to severe and dangerous weather events. That is why we ask you to take time each year to help the College Station Emergency Management, Texas Department of Public Safety Division of Emergency Management, and the National Weather Service by becoming prepared for such events.

Severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, and flash floods contribute to death, injury and damage to personal property throughout the Lone Star State each year. In 2002 alone there were 24 fatalities, 180 injuries and over \$310 Million dollars of property damage.

The citizens of College Station are advised to put together a "readiness kit" of important supplies, to keep a battery operated radio or television set to receive important information during storms, to designate a place to go in case of evacuation and to develop an emergency plan for communicating with relatives or friends in other areas.

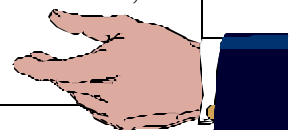


College Station Fire Department All Stars!

A great bunch of firefighters make up this team to so royally represent the City of College Station Fire Department. We are very proud of their efforts to give to this community through their sportsmanship and kind hearts. Always entertaining, but take this great American sport very seriously. We also thank those spouses and families who support these firefighters.

SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Fire Department Safety Committee has been very active the last couple of months. Code Enforcement is in the process of receiving protective clothing. We are working with Dennis Ecklund at Risk Management to improve the pedestrian safety in the rear parking lot of the Muni-Fire Building, and Utilities. Also, Cindy Dillard is working with Steve Smith and Dennis Ecklund to complete the annual safety inspections of city buildings. Work has begun on an emergency evacuation plan for the Municipal Court Building. If you have any concerns or items of interest please contact any one of the following members: Jerry Duffey, Billy Bradshaw, Linda Giffen, Cindy Dillard, Brad Haggerton, David Huff, James Sears, or Mikel Reed.



EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH, November 2003

Mike Ruesink is not only an outstanding supervisor he is a dedicated employee that strives to do well at his job. Mike is well known for his outstanding public relations and is often referred to as "Mayor Mike" because of his positive attitude throughout the community.

Great job Mike!

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH, December 2003

Jeff Kuykendall has worked exceptionally hard to improve processes around the station on shift. He continually tries to improve his skills and knowledge as an officer and equally continues to instill his work ethics to the people he supervises. He has taken on the new task of organizing the hazmat equipment. With the assistance of his personnel they have made great strides. Good going Jeff!

EMPLOYEE OF THE FOURTH QUARTER 2003

Steve Smith is very professional when dealing with the public or with others in the department. He encourages others to think outside the box when approaching what is seen to be a routine duty. Steve also has a good working relationship with other city departments which assists everyone. Congratulations Steve!

OUTSTANDING PROPERTIES IN COLLEGE STATION PROGRAM

Letters from Individuals

Heather Cruce received this letter - *"It is with pride that we acknowledge the nice letter received that announced our property to be "an outstanding residence in College Station". It is so nice to receive a please communication in this time when that does not seem to be the norm. Let me also say that we admire the fine community of College Station for making a strong effort to keep the community a "healthy, safe and aesthetically pleasing" place to live. Please be assured that we will continue to do our part to further that fine objective."* – Edward L. Marvin

Cindy Dillard – *Needless to say, we were delighted to receive the letter concerning our home at 1309 Hawk Tree identified as an outstanding residence – it is a really good feeling to be recognized for the effort, and we are quite proud of this honor! Thank you for making our day!* – Ellen T. Watson

SKYWARN

Skywarn is a program sponsored by your National Weather Service Office in conjunction with the College Station Office of Emergency Management. It is a group of trained volunteers that watch the skies during severe weather and relay reports back to you local Emergency Management Official and/or the National Weather Service (NWS). These volunteers provide valuable information to the NWS to improve the warning program, which could save lives and prevent property damage in your community.

22 April 1 PM College Station Convention Center Room 101
 6 PM College Station Convention Center Room 127

All classes are FREE and open to the public. Contact Brian Hilton @764-6210 or email bhilton@cstx.gov for more information.

CHIEF'S NOTEBOOK

- ✚ We are soon to begin the 2004-2005 budget process. Please start working on your Service Level Adjustments you plan to submit for your programs. Your Battalion Chiefs and Lieutenants can provide assistance if needed.
- ✚ If you have recently changed address, telephone number, or need to update any of your personal information please report it to Shirley Sicinski ASAP.
- ✚ New procedures for shipments via Federal Express – if you have an item to be shipped to a vendor by Federal Express take the item to Linda Giffen (or Shirley Sicinski if Linda is not available) between 8 am and 5 pm, Monday through Friday. Please provide complete information of the receiver, street address, city, state, and telephone number, whether the item needs insured, and any other delivery instruction needed. The air bill will be completed under new guidelines and shipped through the City's Print Mail Department. A complete procedure policy will be distributed in the near future.
- ✚ We have 2 new babies in the fire department family. Eric and Amanda Dotson had a baby boy. Derek Slade Dotson weighed in at 8lbs 3 oz, and mom and baby are doing great! Also, Mikel and Amber Reed had a baby boy. He weighed around 7lbs, and they are also doing fine. Congratulations to both new families

NEW HIRE

Please welcome Kyle Mills. Firefighter Proby Mills is assigned to Station One on B Shift.



LET'S CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

Clint Anderson	Jeremy Murders
Jon Ballard	Pat Quinlan
Jerry Duffey	Tom Reed
Tim Fickey	Greg Rodgers
Ernie Goode	Bobby Rogers
Greg Janda	George Rosier
Jeff Kuykendall	Joe Don Warren
Clint McMillian	Lance Williams
Robert Mumford	

College Station Police Dept. Takes Tourney

Congratulations to College Station Police Dept. for winning the Scotty's House fund raiser on Saturday March 27th. The CSPD defeated CSFD in the first game of three games scheduled. Bryan Fire Department defeated Bryan PD in the second game, and CSPD defeated Bryan FD in the championship game.

All in all everyone had a great time while raising money for Scotty's House. The totals are not in, but we believe the amount raised will be very good.

A special thanks to Scott Giffen and Cynthia Giedraitis who were on the planning committee and spent many hours assisting in the coordination of the Event.

Also a very special thank you goes out to Mary Joe Prince (CSFD Alumni Academy) for all of her efforts in coordinating this event. Also thank you to the CSFD Citizens Fire Academy Alumni for all of their help on game day.

Federal Office of Homeland Security Adopts NIMS

Congress passed the *Homeland Security Act* late in 2002. The Act established the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to prevent and reduce the nation's vulnerability to terrorist attacks, minimize damages and assist in recovery from terrorist attacks that do occur, and unify and strengthen the nation's ability to manage domestic contingencies in an all-hazards context. Homeland Security Directive 5 (HSPD-5), *Management of Domestic Incidents*, was issued in February 2003 to implement requirements of the Act.

HSPD-5 intent is to "ensure that all levels of government work effectively together and in coordination with the private sector; integrating "crisis" and consequence management;" and providing a clear chain of Federal command and control with the Secretary of Homeland Security as the principal Federal official for domestic incident management."

HSPD-5 mandated the creation of a National Incident Management System (NIMS). NIMS is intended to provide a standard system for Federal, State, and Local governments to work together to prepare for and respond to incidents. NIMS includes a core set of concepts, principles, terminology, and technologies covering incident command system, multi-agency coordination systems, unified command, training, identification and management of resources.

NIMS, with a few minor changes follows the current incident command structure used by the fire service. Now all Federal and State agencies assisting local communities will be required to function within the National Incident Management System. NIMS include six major components: Command & management, Preparedness, Resource Management, Communications and Information Management, Support Technologies, and Ongoing Management and Maintenance. The key component of NIMS is Incident Command Systems and Unified Command Systems.

Federal and state agencies have been and will continue to receive training on the ICS and Unified command systems. This structure, once implemented should smooth working relations between local communities, State and Federal agencies during disaster response.

Additional information can be found of the Federal Homeland Security website.



Welcome Aboard - De Kalb, Texas native Charlie Haldeman is the newest member of the City of College Station Public Communications & Marketing team. Haldeman will be responsible for the city's government access channel (Channel 19, Cox Cable), production of videos for the city and its departments, and upgrading of programming for the channel. Charlie is a veteran of the broadcast industry, with a career spanning more than 12 years. The 25 year old came to Bryan/College Station in 1996 to attend Texas A&M, and couldn't stay out of the business. Charlie spent almost 5 years at KORA-FM, and more than 3 years at KBTX-TV, where he was an anchor, reporter, and producer. Other stops include radio stations in Houston and the Texarkana area. In addition to the control rooms and studios, Charlie has also been featured in commercials for the Texas Lottery and Subway. Charlie and wife, Amanda, are expecting their first child in early May.

2004 FIRE DEPARTMENT SPRING BANQUET

Fire Department employees gathered on January 30 at the Pebble Creek Country Club to honor our employees of the month, quarter, and announce the employee of the year, and recognizing our personnel for their accomplishments. We were joined by several College Station City Council Members, Mayor Silvas, City Manager Tom Brymer, Assistant City Manager Glenn Brown, Chris Barron with the State Fire Marshal's office, Medical Director Dr. Jones, Retiree Barker, and many guests. A great buffet dinner was served by the Country Club staff.

A Year-in-Review video, produced by Firefighter Deborah Hamff was enjoyed by all. Chief Giordano review the highlights of 2003 including the fact that department personnel responded to 4611 calls in 2003, the majority of those were for Emergency Medical Services. Our combined 1156 years of service continues to service this community.

Mr. Frank Hartman was presented with the Ambassador of the Year Award for his service and dedication on the CART team. He has served as President for the past three years.

Thank you again to the 2003 Employee Recognition Committee: Julie Caler, Carolyn Sanders, Lance Simms, Mike Ruesink, Cannon Blake, Tim Valdez, and Cindy Dillard.

The 2004 Spring Banquet Committee: Linda Giffen, Deborah Hamff, Julie Caler, Thomas Goehl, George Spain, Fred Rapczyk, and Jon Mies did a wonderful job with this event.

KUDOS

Cindy Giedraitis was a presenter at the NFPA 2003 Fall Education Conference in Reno, Nevada. Linda Baily, Director, Conferences & Expositions, NFPA wrote to say that the education program was successful because experts like Cindy offer their attendees valuable training opportunities. Great job Cindy!

Nick King, Lewis Clinkscales, Mike Ruesink, and Cindy Giedraitis were "just awesome, undeniably great, dependable, gracious, and educated" in their participation with the Area 2 HOSA Competition. A team effort – thank you!

Julie Caler, Emilio Sanchez, and Cindy Giedraitis participated in the TAMU, Department of Student Life, Housing Fair 2004. "Adult, Graduate & Off Campus Student Services is grateful for what you provide to our students that live off campus. Your efforts and participation truly make this a wonderful event!" – Angie Villar, Housing Fair Coordinator

From Pat Carlisle – "The Bryan-College Station Newcomers Club want to thank you for the wonderful programs you presented Thursday. One can never know too much about fire prevention and it was also good to know about the Citizen's Fire Academy. We do appreciate the time and effort you gave us. We wish you much success in all your endeavors!"

From Brazos County District Clerk, Marc Hamlin – Please let this letter serve as my sincere appreciation for the professionalism shown by Mr. Rod Cashaw. In our day-to-day lives it is such a good feeling to find someone that truly enjoys being a public servant. Mr. Cashaw is definitely an attribute to the City of College Station.

Billy Bradshaw received a thank you card from Explorer Post 120 for his efforts and time with their group. His efforts were greatly appreciated. – *Danielle Hamilton, Ali son and friends*